

PAGE 1/7 * RCVD AT 10/26/2006 3:36:13 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/41 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:734 302 7622 * DURATION (mm:ss):02:18^{REV02}

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OCT 26 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group
Art Unit: Unknown

Attorney
Docket No.: 121036-0089

Applicant: Makoto SANPEI et al.

Invention: DAMPER

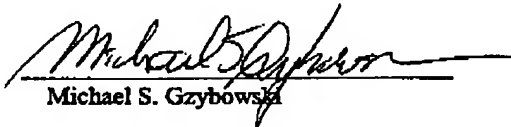
Serial No: 10/576,672

Filing Date: April 21, 2006

Examiner: Unknown

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(b)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is
being transmitted to the United States Patent
and Trademark Office via facsimile on the
date indicated below.


on October 26, 2006
Michael S. GzybowskiSubmission of English Translation of International Preliminary Report on Patentability

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is the English Translation of the International Preliminary Report on
Patentability issued in conjunction with PCT/JP2004/016629.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael S. Gzybowski
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159114.1

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2004/016629

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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

OCT 26 2006

YOSHIDA, Toshio
YOSHIDA PATENT OFFICE No.202, Hillside Ebisu Bldg., 21-11,
Ebisuminami 1-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
1500022
JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 03 August 2006 (03.08.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 19624	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP2004/016629	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 November 2004 (10.11.2004)
Applicant NOK CORPORATION et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Yoshiko Kuwahara

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 19624	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/016629	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 November 2004 (10.11.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 12 December 2003 (12.12.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant NOK CORPORATION			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis.2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70 Form PCT/IB/373 (January 2004)	Date of issuance of this report 27 July 2006 (27.07.2006)
	Authorized officer Yoshiko Kuwahara e-mail: pt07@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

19624

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016629

International filing date (day/month/year)

10.11.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

12.12.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

NOK CORPORATION

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (January 2004)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016629

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
- a. type of material
- ☐ a sequence listing
- ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
- b. format of material
- ☐ in written format
- ☐ in computer readable form
- c. time of filing/furnishing
- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

Form PCT/ISA/237 (Box No. I) (January 2004)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY		International application No. PCT/JP2004/016629
Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	
1. Statement		
Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-6</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES
	Claims <u>1-6</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-6</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
2. Citations and explanations:		
<p>Document 1: JP 8-73679 A (Bridgestone Corporation), 19 March 1996, claims and paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0013, and 0020-0022</p> <p>Document 2: JP 5-180267 A (Fuji Kiko Co., Ltd.), 20 July 1993, paragraph 0002</p> <p>Document 3: JP 5-1013 U (Mitsubishi Motors Corporation), 8 January 1993, claims (Claims 1 and 2)</p> <p>The inventions of claims 1 and 2 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1.</p> <p>Document 1 describes a polymeric cross-linked material obtained by mixing an ethylene-propylene rubber containing 60 weight % or more of an ethylene with a material with a low molecular weight. It also describes that the ethylene-propylene rubber may be in the form of EPDM (ethylene-propylene-diene terpolymer), copolymerized with a diene; that the molecular weight of the rubber is 40,000 or more (this level of molecular weight is found to produce the Mooney viscosity of 40 or more); that an organic material with the number average molecular weight of 5,000 or less, such as a poly-α-olefin oligomer, is used and cross-linked with an organic peroxide, to be used as a vibration-resistant, damping, and/or cushioning material.</p> <p>A person skilled in the art can easily use the material described in document 1, which is intended to be used as a vibration-resistant, damping, and/or cushioning material, as a damping material for an automotive damper. In doing so, it is not particularly difficult to use a mixture of ethylene-propylene copolymer (EPM) and EPDM.</p> <p>Claims 3-6</p> <p>The inventions of claims 3-6 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-3.</p> <p>As described in documents 2 and 3, it is common for a person skilled in the art to fit a damper mass, attached to the rim of a hub via a damping vibration-resistant rubber, onto the end of a crankshaft for an automotive engine, as well as fitting a flywheel to the end of the crankshaft.</p>		

Form PCT/ISA/237 (Box No. V) (January 2004)